

STATEMENT SHOWING MINIMUM HOURLY TAKEN RATES OF WAGE AND ORDINARY HOURS OF  
LABOUR FOR WORKERS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA AT

31st DECEMBER, 1954.

(Rates of Wage are quoted from the latest Award, Determination or Agreement operative  
On 31st December, 1954.)

ADULT MALES

Industry and Occupation	Sydney		Melbourne	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS, ETC.</u>				
<u>COOPERING -</u>	s. d.		s. d.	
Cooper	318/-	40	323/-	40
<u>FURNITURE -</u>				
Cabinet Maker	293/-	"	302/6	"
Chairmaker	293/-	"	302/6	"
French Polisher	293/-	"	302/6	"
Wood Carver	293/-	"	302/6	"
Wood Machinist	293/-	"	265/- to 302/6	"
<u>SAWING &amp; TIMBER YARDS -</u>				
Box and Case Maker	273/-	"	265/-	"
Labourer	257/-	"	249/-	"
Machinist -				
Boults Carver	292/-	"	284/-	"
Moulding	264/6 & 292/-	"	256/6 & 284/-	"
Planing	274/6 & 292/-	"	266/6 & 284/-	"
Shaping	292/-	"	284/-	"
Ordorman	276/6	"	268/6	"
Sawyer -				
Band or Jig	274/- to 295/-	"	266/- to 287/-	"
Circular	275/- & 290/-	"	267/- & 282/-	"
Tallyman	274/6	"	266/6	"
<u>ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.</u>				
<u>BOILERMAKING -</u>				
Boilermaker	318/-	40	310/-	40
Helper	266/-	"	258/-	"
Labourer	252/-	"	244/-	"
<u>BLACK SMITHING -</u>				
Finisher	293/- & 318/-	"	285/- & 310/-	"
Moulder	271/- to 318/-	"	263/- to 310/-	"
<u>ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION -</u>				
Electrical Fitter	301/-	"	310/-	"
Linesman	295/-	"	292/6	"
Electrical Mechanic	301/-	"	310/-	"
<u>ELECTRICAL SUPPLY -</u>				
Electrical fitter *	355/-	"	327/-	"
Instrument Maker *	379/-	"	352/-	"
Linesman	340/- & 355/-	"	294/6 to 306/6	"
Substation maintenance Fitter	370/-	"	327/-	"
<u>ENGINEERING -</u>				
Blacksmith	320/6	"	312/6	"
Brassfinisher	293/- & 318/-	"	285/- & 310/-	"
Coppersmith	320/6	"	312/6	"
Fitter	318/-	"	310/-	"

\* Additional amount of 15/- per week payable if working at power stations.

WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS, ADULT Males 31ST DECEMBER, 1954 (Contd.)

Industry and Occupation	Sydney		Melbourne	
	Rate of Wage	Hours	Rate of Wage	Hours
<u>ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS (Contd.)</u>				
	s. d.		s. d.	
<u>ENGINEERING - (Contd.)</u>				
Labourer	252/-	40	244/-	40
Patternmaker	340/6	"	332/6	"
Shaper	293/- & 318/-	"	285/- & 310/-	"
Striker	266/- & 270/6	"	258/- & 262/6	"
Turner	318/-	"	310/-	"
<u>POUNDRY</u>				
Coremaker - machine	271/- to 293/-	"	263/- to 285/-	"
- jobbing	318/-	"	310/-	"
Dresser	271/- to 290/6	"	263/- to 287/6	"
Furnaceman	280/6 to 288/-	"	272/6 to 280/-	"
Moulder - machine	271/- to 293/-	"	263/- to 285/-	"
- jobbing	318/-	"	310/-	"
<u>SHEET METAL WORKING -</u>				
Canister Maker	273/-	"	265/-	"
Machinist	265/-	"	257/-	"
Solderer	265/- & 273/-	"	257/- & 265/-	"
Sheet Metal Worker 1st class	318/-	"	310/-	"
Sheet Metal Worker 2nd class	293/-	"	285/-	"
<u>FOOD, DRINK, ETC.</u>				
<u>BAKING (BREAD) -</u>				
Board Hand	303/-	40	333/4	38
Bread Carter (1 horse)	283/-	"	286/6	40
Ovensman	311/6	"	333/4	38
Single Hand	308/-	"	356/8	38
<u>BAKING (BISCUITS AND CAKES) -</u>				
Baker	275/6	"	273/-	40
General labourer	249/-	"	251/-	"
Mixer	264/- & 268/-	"	272/-	"
<u>BREWING -</u>				
Cellarman	281/- & 286/-	"	276/-	"
Driver (Motor, 3 tons)	295/-	"	290/6	"
Labourer	281/-	"	271/-	"
Malt Hand	281/-	"	276/-	"
Towerman	286/-	"	276/-	"
<u>BUTCHERING (RETAIL) -</u>				
Carter (1 horse)	278/-	"	258/6	"
General Butcher	303/-	"	295/-	"
Shopman	303/-	"	295/-	"
Smallgoodsman	303/-	"	295/-	"
<u>CONFECTIONERY -</u>				
Confectioner (Grade I)	285/-	"	277/-	"
Storeman	261/-	"	264/-	"
<u>JAM MAKING -</u>				
General Labourer	258/-	"	258/-	"
Solderer	267/-	"	267/-	"
<u>MEAT PACKING -</u>				
Capper	295/6	"	302/-	"
Guillotine Hand	273/-	"	271/-	"
Jokerman	283/-	"	298/-	"
Packer	273/-	"	298/-	"
Seamer	295/6	"	302/-	"
<u>MILLING (FLOUR) -</u>				
Miller (Shift)	295/- to 320/-	"	295/- to 320/-	"
Packerman	280/-	"	280/-	"
Purifierman	283/-	"	283/-	"
Scuttermen	283/-	"	283/-	"
Storeman (Head)	285/- & 290/-	"	285/- & 290/-	"
Topman	283/-	"	283/-	"
<u>PAstryCOOKING -</u>				
Packer	268/6	"	248/-	"
Pastrycook	289/6	"	293/-	"

WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS, ADULT MALES 31ST DECEMBER 1954 (Contd.)

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage		Rates of Wage	
	Hours		Hours	
	CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.			
	s.	d.	s.	d.
<u>BOOTMAKING</u> -				
Bootsmaker	280/-	40	280/-	40
<u>TAILORING (ORDER)</u> -				
Cutter	368/-	"	310/-	"
Presser	283/-	"	283/-	"
Tailor	290/-	"	290/-	"
<u>TAILORING (READYMADE)</u> -				
Cutter	294/-	"	294/-	"
Presser	283/-	"	283/-	"
Tailor	290/-	"	290/-	"
Trimmer	283/-	"	283/-	"
<u>TEXTILE WORKING</u> -				
(Woollen Mills) -				
Carder	265/-	"	265/-	"
Dye-housenman	270/-	"	270/-	"
Labourer (General)	241/-	"	241/-	"
Scourer (Wool)	270/- to 277/6	"	270/- to 277/6	"
Spinner	265/-	"	265/-	"
Loom Tuner	258/- to 288/-	"	258/- to 288/-	"
Warper (Plain)	267/-	"	267/-	"
	<u>BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.</u>			
<u>BOOKBINDING</u> -				
Finisher	318/-	40	310/-	40
Bookbinder	318/-	"	310/-	"
Paper Ruler	318/-	"	310/-	"
<u>PRINTING (DAILY NEWSPAPER)</u>				
Compositor (Machine) -				
Day Work	377/6 to 395/-	"	372/6	38
Night Work	397/6 to 415/-	"	397/6	"
Machinist (First Hand) -				
Day Work	342/6 to 348/-	"	357/6	40
Night Work	261/6 to 369/-	"	382/6	38
Publisher -				
Day Work	316/6 to 323/6	"	308/- to 321/-	40
Night Work	336/6 to 346/6	"	338/- to 346/-	38
Reader -				
Day Work	349/6 & 359/6	"	358/-	40
Night Work	369/6 & 379/6	"	383/-	38
Stereotyper -				
Day Work	341/6 to 350/-	"	353/-	39
Night Work	361/6 to 370/-	"	373/-	38
<u>PRINTING (JOBBER OFFICES)</u> -				
Compositor	318/- to 340/6	"	310/- to 332/6	40
Linotype Operator	340/6	"	332/6	"
Machinist	318/-	"	310/-	"
Reader	325/6	"	317/6	"
Stereotyper	318/-	"	310/-	"
	<u>OTHER MANUFACTURING</u>			
<u>BRICKMAKING</u> -				
Burner	273/- & 279/-	40	275/-	40
Pitman	290/-	"	289/6 & 295/6	"
Drawer	295/6	"	274/6 to 287/-	"
Trucker	287/-	"	269/-	"
Setter	295/6	"	274/6 & 287/-	"
<u>VEHICLE BUILDING</u>				
Bodymaker, 1st Class	318/-	"	310/-	"
Labourer	246/-	"	238/-	"
Painter	271/6 to 310/6	"	263/6 to 302/6	"
Spring maker	318/-	"	310/-	"
Trimmer	293/- & 310/6	"	285/- & 302/6	"
Wheelwright	318/-	"	310/-	"

## WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS. DULLESLANDS 31ST DECEMBER, 1954 (Contd.)

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage	Hours	Rates of Wage	Hours
<u>OTHER MANUFACTURING (CONT'D.)</u>				
<u>GAS-MAKING AND SUPPLY -</u>				
Coke Trimmer	271/-	40	255/-	40
Gasfitter	332/-	"	314/6	"
Labourer	258/-	"	249/-	"
Water Tester	272/- & 294/-	"	284/-	"
Service Layer	299/-	"	276/6	"
Service Layer's Labourer	268/-	"	252/-	"
Stoker	289/-	"	274/- & 284/6	"
<u>JB MILLERY -</u>				
Chainmaker	293/-	"	309/-	"
Mounter	276/- to 301/-	"	284/- to 324/-	"
Setter	293/- to 301/-	"	296/6 to 324/-	"
<u>LEATHER AND CANVAS WORK</u>				
Canvas Worker	283/-	"	275/-	"
Leather Worker	295/-	"	287/-	"
<u>TANNING AND CURRYING -</u>				
Beamsman	290/6	"	282/6	"
Labourer	266/6	"	258/6	"
Lifeman	283/6	"	275/6	"
<u>Machinist -</u>				
Shaving	291/6 to 297/6	"	283/6 to 289/6	"
Splitting	297/6 to 304/6	"	289/6 to 296/6	"
Unhairing	290/6	"	282/6	"
Tableman	285/6 to 291/6	"	277/6 to 283/6	"
<u>BUILDING *</u>				
Bricklayer (Surface)	333/4	40	345/-	40
Bricklayer (Sewer & Tunnel)	346/8	"	355/10	"
Carpenter	338/4	"	345/6	"
Mason (Stone)	322/-	"	293/6 (a)	"
Painter	321/8	"	341/8	"
Paperhanger	321/8	"	341/8	"
Signwriter	334/2	"	341/8	"
Plasterer (Surface)	330/10	"	320/-	"
Plumber	330/9	"	345/-	"
Labourer -				
Bricklayer's	295/10	"	282/6	"
Carpenter's	295/10	"	282/6	"
Concrete Worker	295/10	"	282/6	"
Earth Excavator	295/10	"	282/6	"
Gear Worker	305/10	"	291/8	"
Scaffold Hand	305/10	"	291/8	"
<u>RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY SERVICES</u>				
<u>RAILWAYS</u>				
Engine Driver Loco -				
Steam, diesel electric or electric	362/- & 377/-	0	355/- & 370/-	0
Express, mail or passenger	302/-	0	385/-	0
Shunting Engine	317/- & 332/-	0	302/6 & 311/6	0
Fireman -				
Ordinary	279/6 & 284/6	0	272/6 & 287/6	0
Express, mail or passenger	302/-	0	295/-	0
Shunting Engine	266/- to 275/6	0	253/6 to 268/6	0
Guard -				
1st Class	302/- to 320/-	0	328/-	0
2nd Class	296/-	0	291/- to 313/-	0
Porter -	258/- to 268/-	0	252/6 to 263/-	0
Shunter -				
Head	354/6 to 380/-	+		+
Loading	312/6 to 330/6	+	305/6 to 331/6	+
Ordinary	275/- to 296/-	+	268/- to 289/-	+

\* Rates are weekly equivalents of hourly rates. They include allowances for leave, holidays, following the job etc.

(a) Rate for Stonemason, not comparable with previous years when rate for carver (building) was shown.

WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS. WHARF LABOUR 31ST DECEMBER, 1954 (Contd.)

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rate of Wage	Hours	Rate of Wage	Hours
	s. d.		s. d.	
<u>RAILWAYS (Cont'd.)</u>				
Signalman -				
1st class	358/6	+	325/-	+
2nd class	343/6	d	302/-	d
3rd class	332/-	d	295/-	d
<u>TRANSPORTS -</u>				
Conductor -				
1st year	264/-	40	257/-	40
2nd year	270/-	"	263/-	"
Thereafter	270/-	"	263/-	"
Labourer	258/6	"	251/-	"
Track Repairer	266/- & 269/-	"	270/-	"
Motorman -				
1st Year	273/-	"	257/-	"
2nd Year	273/-	"	263/-	"
Thereafter	273/-	"	263/-	"
Pitman	290/6	"	271/-	"
+ 76 hours per fortnight		ø 80 hours per fortnight		
	<u>TRANSPORT (OTHER)</u>			
<u>CARRYING MERCHANDISE -</u>				
Carter -				
1 horse	274/-	40	258/6	40
2 horses	279/-	"	271/-	"
Stable Hand	273/6	"	253/-	"
Motor Lorries & Wagons -				
3 tons	286/-	"	280/6	"
3 tons but under 6 tons	290/- to 298/-	"	290/-	"
<u>WHARF LABOUR -</u>				
Wharf Labourer (per hour)	8/10		3/10	
	<u>HOTELS, ETC.</u>			
<u>HOTELS -</u>				
Barman	273/-	40	265/-	40
Billiard Marker	263/-	"	255/-	"
Cook	273/- to 313/-	"	265/- to 305/-	"
Handyman	263/-	"	255/-	"
Kitchenman	263/-	"	255/-	"
Porter	263/-	"	255/-	"
Waiter	263/-	"	255/-	"
<u>HAIRDRESSING -</u>				
Hairdressor (men's)	283/- to 293/-	"	273/-	"
	<u>GENERAL LABOUR</u>			
<u>FACTORY ENGINE DRIVING -</u>				
Engine Driver -				
1st Class	280/- & 286/6	40	272/- & 278/6	40
2nd Class	275/- & 280/-	"	267/- & 272/-	"
Fireman -				
1st Class	275/-	"	267/-	"
2nd Class	270/-	"	262/-	"
<u>MUNICIPAL -</u>				
Labourer	300/-	"	257/6	"
Street Sweeper	311/-	"	263/-	"
<u>SHOP ASSISTANTS -</u>				
Boot Salesman	285/-	"	271/-	"
Drapery Salesman	285/-	"	271/-	"
Furniture Salesman	285/-	"	274/-	"
Grocery Salesman	285/-	"	267/-	"
Hardware Salesman	285/-	"	271/-	"
Men's Clothing Salesman	285/-	"	271/-	"
<u>STOREMEN AND PACKERS -</u>				
Packer (General)	275/6 & 278/6	"	276/-	"
Storeman (General)	274/- & 276/6	"	276/-	"

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT FEMALES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

Industry and Occupation	SYDNEY		MELBOURNE	
	Rates of Wage		Rates of Wage	
	Hours		Hours	
	<u>FOOD</u>			
	s.	d.	s.	d.
Biscuit Making	184/-	40	195/3	40
Confectionery	195/-	"	189/6	"
	<u>CLOTHING &amp; HOSIERY</u>			
Bootmaking	190/-	40	199/-	40
Dressmaking	183/- to 213/-	"	183/- to 213/-	"
Hatmaking	183/-	"	183/-	"
Shirt making	183/-	"	183/-	"
Underclothing	183/- to 213/-	"	183/- to 213/-	"
<u>TAILORING - ORDER -</u>				
Coat Hand (Machinist)	213/-	"	213/-	"
Trousers & Vest Hand	200/6	"	200/6	"
Tailoress	229/-	"	229/-	"
Adult Female	183/-	"	183/-	"
<u>TAILORING - READY MADE -</u>				
Coat Hand (Machinist)	203/-	"	203/-	"
Trousers & Vest Hand	198/-	"	198/-	"
Examiner	229/-	"	229/-	"
Adult Female	183/-	"	183/-	"
<u>TEXTILE WORKING (WOOLLEN MILLS) -</u>				
Comb Minder	194/-	"	194/-	"
Barner & Mender	196/- & 199/-	"	196/- & 199/-	"
Warper	196/-	"	196/-	"
Weaver (Loom)	190/-	"	189/-	"
Gillbox Minder	193/-	"	193/-	"
Other Adult	181/-	"	181/-	"
	<u>BOOKS, PRINTING, ETC.</u>			
<u>BOOKBINDING -</u>				
Folder	206/-	40	200/-	40
Sewer	206/-	"	200/-	"
<u>CARDBOARD BOX -</u>				
Box maker	204/- to 210/6	"	198/- to 204/6	"
Other	194/6	"	188/6	"
<u>PRINTING -</u>				
Jobbing Office Assistant	206/-	"	200/-	"
	<u>HOTELS AND SHOPS, ETC.</u>			
<u>HOTELS -</u>				
Barmaid	212/-	40	264/-	40
Housemaid	199/-	"	189/6	"
Laundress	200/-	"	193/6	"
Waitress - Head	206/-	"	195/6	"
Waitress - Other	199/-	"	189/6	"
<u>RESTAURANTS -</u>				
Pantry Maid	182/-	"	184/6	"
Waitress	182/-	"	184/6	"
<u>CLERKS -</u>				
Cashiers (Shops)	204/-	"	203/6	"
Clerical Assistants	207/-	"	203/6	"
<u>SHOPS -</u>				
Boot Saleswoman	204/- & 205/-	"	191/-	"
Drapery Saleswoman	204/- & 205/-	"	191/- & 271/6	"
Fruit & Confectionery Saleswoman	204/-	"	187/-	"
Newsagent & Bookstall Saleswoman	204/-	"	176/- & 180/-	"